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# Cartan Matrices and Grothendieck Groups of Stable Categories

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Let  $A$  be a finite dimensional algebra over a field  $K$  and  $\hat{A}$  its repetitive algebra [4]. In [2] Happel proved that if  $\text{gl. dim } A < \infty$  then there is an equivalence between the derived category  $D^b(A)$  and projectively stable module category  $\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}$  such that the triangulations of  $D^b(A)$  and  $\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}$  are retained by the equivalence.

This investigation is motivated by the converse problem of his theorem. If there is a triangulated category equivalence  $G: D^b(A) \simeq \underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}$ ,  $G$  induces naturally the isomorphism between their Grothendieck groups:  $K_0(D^b(A)) \simeq K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$ . As  $K_0(D^b(A)) \simeq K_0(A)$  it follows that  $K_0(A) \simeq K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  and consequently  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  is isomorphic to the free abelian group  $\mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$  of rank  $n$ , where  $n$  is the number of non-isomorphic simple  $A$ -modules.

The main purpose of this paper is to give a characterization of algebras  $A$  such that  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq K_0(A)$ . In Section 2 we prove that in order to hold  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq K_0(A)$  it is necessary and sufficient that the determinant of the Cartan matrix of  $A$  be equal to  $\pm 1$ . By this result we can easily find some algebras  $A$  such that  $D^b(A) \not\simeq \underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}$ .

## 1. GROTHENDIECK GROUP $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$

Let  $B$  be a Frobenius  $K$ -algebra. That is,  $B$  is a basic  $K$ -algebra and is a direct sum of (not necessarily finite number of) indecomposable right

ideals which are injective. It is known that, by using the loop space functor  $\Omega^{-1}$  of Heller as the translation functor,  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$  can be seen as a triangulated category.

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be non-projective  $B$ -modules.

For any  $f \in \text{Hom}_B(X, Y)$ ,  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{h} \Omega^{-1}X$  is a triangle in  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$  if  $Z$  is the pushout of  $f$  and the inclusion  $\iota_X$  of  $X$  into the injective envelope  $I(X)$  and if  $g$  and  $h$  appear in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{\iota_X} & I(X) & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{-1}X \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{h} & \Omega^{-1}X \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

We shall denote by  $[X]$ ,  $[Y]$ , and  $[Z]$  (resp.  $[X]$ ,  $[Y]$ , and  $[Z]$ ) the isomorphism classes of  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  in  $\text{mod } B$  (resp.  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$ ). Let  $F$  be the free abelian group generated by the isomorphism classes of modules in  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$  and  $F_0$  the subgroup generated by  $[X] - [Y] + [Z]$  for all triangles  $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \Omega^{-1}X$  as above. Then the Grothendieck group  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B)$  is defined to be the factor group  $F/F_0$ . For the details we refer to [3, pp. 10–23, 95–102].

Now we have

**PROPOSITION 1..** *Let  $B$  be a Frobenius  $K$ -algebra. Then it holds that  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B) \simeq K_0(B)/\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle$ , where  $\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle$  is the subgroup of  $K_0(B)$  generated by the isomorphism classes of projective  $B$ -modules.*

*Proof.* Let us define a homomorphism  $\rho': K_0(B) \rightarrow K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B)$  by  $[X] \rightarrow [X]$  for  $X \in \text{mod } B$ . First, we should check that  $\rho'$  is well defined. Let  $0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{u} Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$  be an exact sequence in  $\text{mod } B$ , i.e.,  $[X] + [Z] = [Y]$  in  $K_0(B)$ . Taking  $C_u$  as the pushout of  $u$  and  $\iota_X$  we have the following commutative diagram with exact rows and columns:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{\iota_X} & I(X) & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{-1}X \\ \downarrow u & & \downarrow v & & \downarrow \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g_u} & C_u & \xrightarrow{f_u} & \Omega^{-1}X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ Z & \simeq & Z & & \end{array}$$

and  $X \xrightarrow{u} Y \xrightarrow{g_u} C_u \xrightarrow{f_u} \Omega^{-1}X$  is a triangle in  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$ . Since  $C_u \simeq I(X) \oplus Z$  and hence  $[X] + [C_u] = [Y]$  as  $I(X)$  is projective in  $\text{mod } B$ . This implies  $\rho'$  is well defined.

It is clear that  $\rho'$  carries any finitely generated projective  $B$ -module to

$[0]$  in  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B)$ . So  $\rho'$  induces naturally a homomorphism  $\rho: K_0(B)/\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle \rightarrow K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B)$ .

Conversely we can define a homomorphism  $v: K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B) \rightarrow K_0(B)/\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle$  by putting  $v([X]) = [X]$  modulo  $\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle$ .

Assume  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \rightarrow C \rightarrow \underline{\Omega}^{-1}X$  is a triangle, i.e.,  $[X] + [C] = [Y]$  in  $\underline{\text{mod}} B$ . Then  $C$  is isomorphic to a pushout of  $f$  and  $\iota_X: X \rightarrow I(X)$  and the sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow I(X) \oplus Y \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is exact. Hence we have  $[X] + [C] = [Y]$  modulo  $\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle$  since  $B$  is selfinjective. This implies that  $v$  is also well defined.

Now it is immediate that  $v\rho = \text{id}_{K_0(B)/\langle [\text{proj}] \rangle}$  and  $\rho v = \text{id}_{K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} B)}$  by the above argument.

For a finite dimensional  $K$ -algebra  $A$  and an  $A$ -bimodule  $M$  we shall denote by  $c_{ij}(M)$  the composition length of right  $e_j A e_j$ -module  $e_i M e_j$ , where  $e_i$  and  $e_j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , are primitive idempotents such that  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n A e_i$  is a direct sum decomposition of  $A$  into left primitive (i.e., indecomposable) ideals. Then it is immediate that

$$c_{ij}(D(M))(\bar{e}_j \bar{A} \bar{e}_j : K) = c_{ji}(M)(\bar{e}_i \bar{A} \bar{e}_i : K),$$

where  $D(M) = \text{Hom}_K(M, K)$ ,  $\bar{A} = A/J(A)$ , an  $J(A)$  is the Jacobson radical of  $A$ . Especially we have

LEMMA 1.2.  $c_{ji}(A) f_i = c_{ij}(D(A)) f_j$ , where  $f_i = (\bar{e}_i \bar{A} \bar{e}_i : K)$  and  $f_j = (\bar{e}_j \bar{A} \bar{e}_j : K)$ .

Here we mention that the matrix  $(c_{ij}(A))_{ij}$  is the Cartan matrix of  $A$ .

For a finite dimensional  $K$ -algebra  $A$ , the repetitive algebra  $\hat{A}$  is defined to be an infinite dimensional  $K$ -algebra whose underlying vector  $K$ -space is

$$\hat{A} = \left( \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} A_p \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} D(A)_p \right),$$

where

$$A_p D(A)_p A_{p+1} = A_p \text{Hom}_K(A, K) A_{p+1},$$

$A_p \simeq A$ , and the multiplication is defined by

$$(a_p, \alpha_p)(b_q, \beta_q) = (\delta_{pq} a_p b_q, \delta_{pq} \alpha_p \beta_q + \delta_{p+1, q} \alpha_p b_q),$$

where  $\delta$  means the Kronecker  $\delta$ .

Corresponding to a direct sum decomposition  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n A e_i$  of  $A$  into primitive left ideals we have the direct sum decomposition of  $\hat{A}$  such that

$$\hat{A} = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \hat{A} e_{p,i} = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigoplus_{i=1}^n e_{p,i} \hat{A},$$

where  $e_{p,i} \in A_p$  and  $A_p \hat{A} e_{p,i} \simeq A A e_i$ ,  $e_{p,i} \hat{A} A_p \simeq e_i A A$ .

Since the Jacobson radical  $J(\hat{A}) = (\bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} J(A)_p) \oplus (\bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} D(A)_p)$ ,  $\bar{e}_{p,i} \bar{A}_{A_p} \simeq \bar{e}_i \bar{A}_A$ , and  $\{\bar{e}_{p,i} \bar{A} \mid p \in \mathbb{Z}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $K_0(\hat{A})$ .

Now  $T: [\bar{e}_{p,i} \bar{A}] \rightarrow [\bar{e}_{p+1,i} \bar{A}]$  defines the Nakayama permutation of  $\hat{A}$  because  $\bar{e}_{p,i} \bar{A} \simeq \text{top of } e_{p,i} \hat{A}$  and  $\bar{e}_{p+1,i} \bar{A} \simeq \text{socle of } e_{p,i} \hat{A}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} K_0(\hat{A}) &= \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \left( \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[\bar{e}_{p,i} \bar{A}] \right) \\ &= \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \left( \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z} T^p [\bar{e}_{0,i} \bar{A}] \right) \\ &\simeq \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}] \\ &= \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$  is the polynomial subring of rational function field  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  of a variable  $T$  over the rational number field.

Since  $e_{p,i} \hat{A} e_{q,j} = 0$  for  $p+1 < q$  or  $q < p$ ,

$$e_{p,i} A_p e_{p,i} e_{p,i} \hat{A} e_{p,j} e_{p,j} A_p e_{p,j} \simeq e_{i A e_i} e_i A e_j e_j A e_j$$

and

$$e_{p,i} A_p e_{p,i} e_{p,i} \hat{A} e_{p+1,j} e_{p+1,j} A_{p+1,j} \simeq e_{i A e_i} e_i D(A) e_j e_j A e_j,$$

it follows by Lemma 1.2 that

$$\begin{aligned} [e_{p,i} \hat{A}] &= \sum_j c_{ij}(A) [\bar{e}_{p,j} \bar{A}] + \sum_j c_{ij}(D(A)) [\bar{e}_{p+1,j} \bar{A}] \\ &= \sum_j c_{ij}(A) [\bar{e}_{p,j} \bar{A}] + \sum_j c_{ji}(A) (f_i/f_j) [\bar{e}_{p+1,j} \bar{A}] \\ &= \sum_j c_{ij}(A) [\bar{e}_{p,j} \bar{A}] + \sum_j c_{ij}(A) (f_i/f_j) T [\bar{e}_{p,j} \bar{A}] \end{aligned}$$

in  $K_0(\hat{A})$ .

Hence the element of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  corresponding to the  $[e_{p,i} \hat{A}]$  of  $K_0(\text{mod } \hat{A})$  is  $(0, \dots, T^p, \dots, 0)(C + F^t C F^{-1} T)$ , where  $T^p$  is in the  $i$ th slot,  $C = (c_{ij}(A))_{ij}$ , and  $F = (\delta_{ij} f_i)_{ij}$ .

Consequently we have

**THEOREM 1.3.** *Let  $C$  be the Cartan matrix of  $A$  and  $C^* = F^t C F^{-1}$ , where  $F = (\delta_{ij} f_i)_{ij}$ . Let  $\Theta$  be the endomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  obtained by*

the multiplication of  $C + C^*T$  from the right hand with elements of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$ . Then it holds that

$$K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} / \text{Im } \Theta \simeq \text{Cok } \Theta.$$

That is, we have the exact sequence

$$\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} \xrightarrow{\Theta} \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} \longrightarrow K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \longrightarrow 0.$$

## 2. $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$ AND CARTAN MATRIX OF $A$

By Theorem 1.3 our main problem is reduced to the following question: When is  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} / \text{Im } \Theta \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$ ?

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $\Theta$  be the endomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  in Theorem 1.3. Then  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} / \text{Im } \Theta) \simeq \mathbb{Q}^{(n)}$  if and only if the Cartan matrix  $C$  of  $A$  is regular, i.e., the determinant of  $C$  is non-zero.*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} \simeq \mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] \supset \mathbb{Q}[T]$ . Hence we can consider that  $C + C^*T$  is an element of the  $n \times n$  matrix ring  $\mathbb{Q}[T]_n$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$ . Therefore by elementary transformations we have a diagonal matrix

$$C + C^*T \sim \begin{bmatrix} f_1(T) & & & & & \\ & f_2(T) & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & f_r(T) & & \\ & & & & 0 & \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

where the  $f_i(T)$  are polynomials with non-zero constant term.

Assume that  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} / \text{Im } \Theta) \simeq \mathbb{Q}^{(n)}$ . In this case it holds that  $r = n$ , for otherwise, as the elementary transformations are in  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  we know that  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]$  appears as a direct summand of  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] / \mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Im } \Theta \simeq \mathbb{Q}^{(n)}$ . But  $(\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] : \mathbb{Q}) = \infty$  and this is a contradiction.

Let  $n_i$  be the degree of  $f_i(T)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Then it holds that  $(\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] / f_i(T) \mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] : \mathbb{Q}) \leq n_i$  since  $\{\bar{1}, \bar{T}, \dots, \bar{T}^{n_i-1}\}$  generates  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}] / f_i(T) \mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]$ . Consequently

$$n = (\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)} / \mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Im } \Theta : \mathbb{Q}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n n_i.$$

On the other hand it holds that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n n_i = \deg \left( \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(T) \right) = \deg(\det(C + C^*T)) \leq n.$$

This implies  $\deg(\det(C + C^*T)) = n$ . However,  $\det(C + C^*T) = (\det C^*)T^n + \dots + (\det C)$ . Hence  $\det C^* \neq 0$ . It follows that  $\det C \neq 0$  as  $C^* = F'CF^{-1}$  and  $F$  is regular.

Assume  $\det C \neq 0$ . If  $\{\bar{1}, \bar{T}, \dots, \bar{T}^{n_i-1}\}$  is linearly dependent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]/f_i(T)\mathbb{Q}[T, T^{-1}]$ , then there are  $a_j \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n_i - 1$ , a positive integer  $s$ , and  $g(T) \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  such that  $(a_0 + a_1T + \dots + a_{n_i}T^{n_i-1}) = f_i(T)g(T)/T^s$  and  $(g(T), T) = 1$ . Then  $T$  divides  $f_i(T)$ . But this contradicts  $\det(C + C^*T) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(T) = \det C + \dots + \det C^*T^n$  and  $\det C \neq 0$ . This completes the proof.

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $n$  be the number of non-isomorphic simple  $A$ -modules. Then the rank of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -free part of  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  is either  $\leq n$  or  $\infty$ .*

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $C$  be the Cartan matrix of an algebra  $A$  and  $\Theta$  the endomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  in Theorem 1.3. Let  $\alpha = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{s=p}^q a_{k,s}T^s)u_k$  be an element of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$ , where  $\{u_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , is a free  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$ -basis of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  and  $\Theta\alpha = \beta = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{t=x}^y b_{k,t}T^t)u_k$ . Let us denote by  $A_s$  and  $B_t$  the row matrices  $(a_{1,s}, a_{2,s}, \dots, a_{n,s})$ ,  $s = p, p+1, \dots, q$ , and  $(b_{1,t}, b_{2,t}, \dots, b_{n,t})$ ,  $t = x, x+1, \dots, y$  in  $\mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$ , respectively.*

*Then it holds that  $x = p$  and  $y = q + 1$  and  $A_p C = B_p$ ,  $A_p C^* + A_{p+1} C = B_{p+1}$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $A_{q-1} C^* + A_q C = B_q$ ,  $A_q C^* = B_{q+1}$ .*

*Proof.* A routine calculation.

**PROPOSITION 2.4.** *Let  $\det C \neq 0$ . If  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta$  is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, then  $\det C = \pm 1$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  we can put  $\alpha = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_s x_{k,s}T^s)u_k$ , where  $\{u_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , a free  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$ -basis of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$ .

From the assumption we may assume that there are some fixed integers  $v$  and  $m$  such that  $\bar{\alpha} = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{s=v}^m x_{k,s}\bar{T}^s)\bar{u}_k$ . Without loss of generality we may assume further that  $v = 0$ , since  $\bar{T}^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta) = \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta$ . This implies that  $\{\bar{T}^s\bar{u}_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots, m$ , contains a set of generators of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, and by a similar reason so does  $\{\bar{T}^t\bar{u}_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $t = 1, 2, \dots, m+1$ .

Now for each  $i$  take  $\beta_i = (\sum_{k=1}^n \delta_{k,i}T^0)u_k \in \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . As quoted above  $\{\bar{T}^t\bar{u}_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $t = 1, 2, \dots, m+1$ , contains a

set of generators of a  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta$ , there exists  $\beta'_i = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{t=1}^{m+1} b_{k,t}^{(i)} T^t) u_k$  such that  $\beta_i + \beta'_i \in \text{Im } \Theta$ . Hence there exists  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  such that  $\Theta \alpha_i = \beta_i + \beta'_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Let us denote  $\alpha_i$  by  $\sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{s=p}^q a_{k,s}^{(i)} T^s) u_k$ . Then from the equations in Lemma 2.3 it follows that  $p = 0$  and  $q = m$ , since  $\det C = \det C^* \neq 0$ . Denote by  $A_s^{(i)}$  and  $B_t^{(i)}$  the row matrices  $(a_{1,s}^{(i)}, a_{2,s}^{(i)}, \dots, a_{n,s}^{(i)})$  and  $(b_{1,t}^{(i)}, b_{2,t}^{(i)}, \dots, b_{n,t}^{(i)})$  in  $\mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$ , respectively. It holds that  $A_m^{(i)} = B_{m+1}^{(i)} C^{*-1}$ ,  $A_{m-1}^{(i)} = (B_m^{(i)} - A_m^{(i)} C) C^{*-1}$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $A_0^{(i)} = (B_1^{(i)} - A_1^{(i)} C) C^{*-1}$  and  $(0, 0, \dots, \overset{i}{1}, \dots, 0, 0) = A_0^{(i)} C$ . Therefore we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_0^{(1)} \\ A_0^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ A_0^{(n)} \end{bmatrix} C = E.$$

Hence  $\det C = \pm 1$  because  $A_0^{(i)} \in \mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.5.** *Let  $C$  be the Cartan matrix of an algebra  $A$ . If  $\det C = \pm 1$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}/\text{Im } \Theta$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -free.*

*Proof.* Let  $\beta$  be an element of  $\mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]^{(n)}$  such that  $d\beta \in \text{Im } \Theta$  for an integer  $d$ . Let  $\alpha = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{s=0}^m a_{k,s} T^s) u_k$  such that  $\Theta \alpha = d\beta$ . Denote  $\beta = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{t=0}^{m+1} b_{k,t} T^t) u_k$ ,  $B_t = (b_{1,t}, b_{2,t}, \dots, b_{n,t})$ ,  $t = 0, 1, \dots, m+1$ , and  $A_s = (a_{1,s}, a_{2,s}, \dots, a_{n,s})$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots, m$ . Then it holds that  $A_0 C = dB_0$ ,  $A_0 C^* + A_1 C = dB_1$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $A_{m-1} C^* + A_m C = dB_m$ ,  $A_m C^* = dB_{m+1}$ . Since  $\det C = \pm 1$  and  $\det C^* = \pm 1$  there are  $A'_s = (a'_{1,s}, a'_{2,s}, \dots, a'_{n,s}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{(n)}$  such that  $dA'_s = A_s$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots, m$ . Then  $\beta = \Theta' \alpha'$  for  $\alpha' = \sum_{k=1}^n (\sum_{s=0}^m a'_{k,s} T^s) u_k$ . This completes the proof.

Now by Theorem 2.1 and Propositions 2.4 and 2.5 we have

**THEOREM 2.6.** *Let  $A$  be a finite dimensional algebra and  $\hat{A}$  its repetitive algebra. Let  $C$  be the Cartan matrix of  $A$ . Then  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq K_0(\text{mod } A)$  if and only if  $\det C = \pm 1$ .*

In the following examples  $Q$ 's are the quivers of algebras  $A$ 's and  $(*)$ 's are their relations, respectively. Of course  $C$  and  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  are their Cartan matrices and stable Grothendieck groups.

**EXAMPLE 1** (cf. [1]).

$$Q: \alpha \quad 1 \xrightleftharpoons[\gamma]{\beta} 2, \quad (*): \alpha^2 = 0, \beta\alpha = 0, \gamma\beta = 0, \beta\gamma = 0, \alpha\gamma = 0.$$

Then

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \simeq K_0(A)$ , but  $\text{gl. dim } A = \infty$ .

EXAMPLE 2.

$$Q: 1 \xrightarrow{\alpha} 2 \xrightleftharpoons[\gamma]{\beta} 3, \quad (*): \beta\alpha = 0, \beta\gamma = 0, \gamma\beta = 0,$$

Then

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \not\simeq K_0(A)$ . Therefore it occurs that  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  is a finitely generated free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, but not isomorphic to  $K_0(A)$ .

EXAMPLE 3.

$$Q: \sigma \quad \begin{array}{c} \alpha_1 \longrightarrow \\ \alpha_2 \longrightarrow \\ \longleftarrow \beta_1 \\ \longleftarrow \beta_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \rho \\ \rho \end{array}$$

( $*$ ):  $\sigma^2 = 0, \rho^3 = 0, \alpha_i\sigma = 0, \sigma\beta_i = 0, \alpha_i\beta_j = 0, \beta_i\alpha_j = 0, \rho\alpha_i = 0, \beta_i\rho = 0$  for  $i, j = 1, 2$ . Then

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $\det C = 2$ , hence  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Q} \otimes K_0(A)$ , but  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{(2)} \oplus (\bigoplus_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/(2))$ .

EXAMPLE 4.

$$Q: \quad \begin{array}{c} \alpha_1 \longrightarrow \\ \alpha_2 \longrightarrow \\ \longleftarrow \beta_1 \\ \longleftarrow \beta_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \rho \\ \rho \end{array}$$

( $*$ ):  $\rho^4 = 0, \rho\alpha_i = 0, \beta_j\rho = 0, \alpha_i\beta_j = 0, \beta_j\alpha_i = 0$  for  $i, j = 1, 2$ . Then

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$



and  $\det C = 0$ ,  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}[T, T^{-1}]$ . Hence for this example  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A})$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -free, but not finitely generated.

EXAMPLE 5.

$$Q: \begin{array}{ccc} \alpha_1 & \longrightarrow & \\ \alpha_2 & \longrightarrow & \\ 1 \alpha_3 & \longrightarrow & 2 \\ & \longleftarrow & \beta_1 \\ & \longleftarrow & \beta_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowright \\ \rho \end{array}$$

(\*):  $\rho^6 = 0$ ,  $\rho\alpha_i = 0$ ,  $\beta_j\rho = 0$ ,  $\alpha_i\beta_j = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ . Then

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $\det C = 0$ ,  $K_0(\underline{\text{mod}} \hat{A}) \simeq 0$ .

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